

# AGRICULTURAL MONTANA

“THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY”

*Where Brains and Brawn  
Pay Big Dividends*



*By the*  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND PUBLICITY

ALLAN C. LEMON  
CHIEF CLERK

CHAS. D. GREENFIELD  
COMMISSIONER

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# Agricultural Montana

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MAN'S EFFORTS to secure a piece of land of his own shows this to be a universal desire and one of his strongest instincts. The call of a new country has been answered by thousands upon thousands of men in all ages past. In our own country, in the earlier days, men were willing to leave the comforts of civilization, together with the social, educational and spiritual advantages there, and go far into the wilderness that they might have land to call their own and a home for themselves and for their children.

In the years that have gone by since the westward trek began the Great West has been settled. Yet ever present today is the desire to own a piece of land and to establish one's own home. Where shall the instinct now be gratified? Where shall the man with limited capital

have a chance today? The answer is to be found in Montana. It is to be found in the cheap lands of this great western state, where thousands of acres, that await only cultivation and improvement, can be secured at a reasonable and moderate cost, upon reasonable and moderate terms. Montana, land of opportunity, is the answer to the land hungry. It is the one greatest opportunity today to the man of limited means who wishes to secure a home of his own.

## What Montana Has to Offer.

Montana has an offering of land to the landless that for variety is not to be surpassed anywhere in the Union. Lands for wheat growing, for mixed farming, for dairying, for grazing, for gardening and fruit growing are all found in Montana. Irrigated lands, lands for dry-farming, timber lands and lands on the open prairie, lands suited to producing cereal crops, land for root crops or for hay crops, state land, homestead land, logged-off and cut-over lands, can all be secured in Montana.

## A State of Great Proportions.

Montana is the third state in size in the Union, it being surpassed in area only by Texas and California. Its average length from east to west is 535 miles and its average width from north to south is 275 miles. It has an area of 147,182 square miles or 93,568,640 acres, which is an area greater than all of the New England states, New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland combined. It is as large as 117 Rhode Islands. Yet within this vast area a population of 762,208 people have their homes, an average of five to each square mile.

Montana land has been roughly divided into three classes. It is believed that about one-third of the land is agricultural land, one-third grazing and one-third timber land. Of the total land in Montana only two per cent is classified as "improved" land, which means land that has been cultivated.

### **Lands for Mixed Farming.**

Because of the newness of the soil and the favorable climate, certain sections of the state produce enormous yields of wheat. Most of this is of the "No. 1 hard" variety, due to the cool days during the period when the wheat kernel is filling. This is in great demand by the mills.

In other and older sections, where agriculture has been placed on a more enduring basis, lands ideal for mixed farming are the rule. In these sections the raising of all kinds of cereals, livestock, poultry, garden truck and general farm products are engaged in. Dairying is one of the most profitable enterprises, the state having sixty-four dairies and eight cheese factories. It is the common thing to find several cows on every farm. There are 197,000 dairy cows in the state. With the cows, poultry and garden the larger part of the living expenses of the farmer are met.

### **Grazing Lands Extensive.**

When it is considered that only two per cent of the land is under cultivation, it must be concluded that a vast acreage is still in its raw state and used for grazing.



A FEW MONTANA BEAUTIES.

Although most of the large ranches have been divided up and sold to farmers, yet the foothills and the dry sections of the state furnish grazing land for vast bands of sheep and herds of cattle and horses. Many sheep and cattle are also fed annually on the forest reserves where the animals may be grazed if permits are obtained from the forest service. In 1917 there were 334,000 beef cattle sent to market from Montana farms and ranches, the largest number ever shipped out of the state in a single year. The government report for January 1, 1919, showed 1,020,000 beef cattle, 557,000 horses, 2,984,000 sheep and 200,000 hogs on the farms and ranches of Montana.

### **Irrigation Guarantees Crops.**

Montana has a large acreage given over to irrigation. There are seven projects under the supervision of the United States Reclamation Service, with a total of 875,000 acres included in the irrigable area. The state has six projects under the supervision of the State Carey Land Act Board and is endeavoring to reclaim 173,000 acres in these tracts. The acreage under private and co-operative irrigation enterprises in the state is considered to be near the 2,000,000 mark. Crops are sure under the ditch and much

of this land can be bought from individuals and companies at very reasonable prices. There is a good deal of land yet to be entered on all of the federal and state projects. The prices of the land vary from \$50 to \$150 per acre, depending upon the location of the land and the improvements thereon.

### **Logged-Off and Cut-Over Lands.**

Much interest has recently been shown in the logged-off lands of western and northwestern Montana and for the man with a little capital and a determination to succeed these offer an exceptional opportunity. There are thousands of acres of bench and valley lands from which timber has been removed, leaving the stumps and undergrowth upon a soil which when cleared off is of uniformly fertile character, usually perfectly sub-irrigated and suitable for the growing of all kinds of crops. Much of this land is held by the big lumber companies of the state, while a considerable portion of it is in private ownership by original homesteaders and timber entrymen. Lands of this character can be bought on long-time payments at from \$10.00 to \$25.00 per acre, which many regard as cheaper than homesteading. Many of the finest orchards in the state were developed from cut-over lands, and throughout northwestern Montana are to be found thousands of sturdy farmers who have secured logged-off land and are building beautiful and substantial homes in what was until recently a wilderness.

### **What Is Raised in Montana?**

Roughly speaking, the logged-off lands of Montana are in the counties of Lincoln, which has approximately 20,000 acres of such land; Flathead, with 70,000 acres; Missoula, 40,000 acres; Mineral, 35,000 acres; Sanders, 25,000 acres, and Ravalli, 30,000 acres.

Montana is fast becoming one of the leading agricultural states in the Union. The United States Department of Agriculture gives the total value of farm products for 1918 as \$146,713,000 as contrasted with an average of \$62,491,000 for the previous five years. This great increase is due to the much larger number of acres made cultivable by the influx of new settlers.

While wheat is the leading crop, other grains thrive in the state. Oats, flax, corn, barley and rye rank in the order named, and are raised very successfully. More land is being given to their cultivation each year. The hay crop is also very important, with alfalfa, timothy and clover being raised in large quantities.

### **Potatoes and Sugar Beets Thrive.**

The chief root crops are the potato and sugar beet. Montana is the home of the "great big baked potato," and no finer potatoes are grown anywhere than in Montana. The raising of sugar beets is progressing very rapidly in several sections of Montana and factories have been built to handle the product. In addition to these products practically every kind of garden vegetable known is grown in Montana successfully. The pea crop is very important in a number of the valleys, the product being used for canning and for seed.

Due to the excellence of Montana products, the state has been able to carry off highest honors in every important American competition in grains since 1910, and has taken the larger percentage of the prizes at the great grain and land shows of the country, including the highest competitive award in the division of agriculture at the Panama-Pacific Exposition in 1915 and the grand prize in cereals at the San Diego Exposition in the same year.

### **Large Yields of Wheat.**

Illustrative of the growth of the amount of wheat produced in Montana, the following figures are taken from the United States Department of Agriculture reports. In 1900 the production was 1,929,963 bushels with a value of \$1,177,277; in 1905, 2,843,326 bushels with a value of \$2,018,787; in 1910, 10,560,000 bushels valued at \$9,081,000, and

in 1918, 25,434,000 bushels valued at \$49,342,000. It will be seen from this that both the production and value have more than doubled each five-year period.

The oat production shows 2,568,735 bushels with a value of \$1,078,869 in 1900; in 1905, 7,389,024 bushels with a value of \$3,177,280; in 1910, 13,000,000 bushels, with a value of \$6,118,000, and in 1918, 20,400,000 bushels with a valuation of \$16,320,000.



THRESHING THE SEASON'S WHEAT CROP.

#### All Products Show Big Increase.

Flax also shows a remarkable increase from 200 bushels in 1901 to 165,700 bushels in 1905, with a value of \$135,874; and to 420,000 bushels in 1910, worth \$1,008,000, with a jump to 2,844,000 bushels in 1918, valued at \$9,613,000.

The production of barley shows a growth from 201,527 bushels in 1900 with a value of \$96,773, to 512,491 bushels in 1905, valued at \$281,395; to 1,456,000 bushels in 1910 valued at \$903,000, increasing to 1,914,000 bushels in 1918 with a valuation of \$1,914,000.

Corn shows an increase from 23,970 bushels in 1900, valued at \$14,172, to 76,455 bushels in 1905, valued at \$51,989; to 184,000 bushels in 1910, valued at \$175,000, to 2,100,000 bushels in 1918 with a total value of \$2,835,000. This is one of the most remarkable increases shown by any product and goes to prove that corn can be successfully raised in many parts of the state.

#### Hay Crop Valuable.

The value of the tame hay crop has likewise increased from 590,658 tons in 1900, with a value of \$5,138,725, to 840,000 tons in 1910 with a value of \$10,500,000, to 1,227,000 tons in 1918 with a valuation of \$24,049,000.

Potatoes have increased from 640,654 bushels in 1900, valued at \$339,547, to 1,642,560 bushels in 1905 with a value of \$969,110; to 3,000,000 bushels in 1910, with a value of \$2,550,000; to 7,020,000 bushels in 1918, with a valuation of \$5,616,000.

### Acre Value Production.

A comparison of the value to the farmer of an acre of hay, wheat, potatoes and oats in Montana, to an acre in any of the twelve leading agricultural states, is as follows:

	Hay	Wheat	Potatoes	Oats
Ohio .....	\$31.08	\$40.28	\$103.50	\$30.80
Indiana .....	28.71	43.68	108.00	28.14
Illinois .....	28.35	45.76	106.56	29.48
Michigan .....	24.20	29.68	74.76	27.60
Wisconsin .....	29.59	49.61	89.60	31.22
Minnesota .....	19.74	42.84	78.75	25.83
Iowa .....	23.66	37.40	95.76	26.88
Missouri .....	18.45	26.65	93.33	20.30
North Dakota .....	16.06	26.39	72.27	14.34
South Dakota .....	16.00	37.61	84.63	23.01
Nebraska .....	24.08	22.26	101.48	14.43
Kansas .....	27.16	28.06	76.32	16.06
United States .....	27.20	31.71	113.57	24.60
<b>MONTANA .....</b>	<b>31.36</b>	<b>23.56</b>	<b>108.00</b>	<b>24.00</b>

It will be seen from the above table that Montana is first in hay and potatoes when compared with these twelve states and that it ranks well with the others in the production of oats. The year 1918 was somewhat of an abnormal year for wheat in certain parts of the state. Lack of precipitation during the growing season in several wheat sections cut down the yield for the state as a whole.



A NORTHERN MONTANA WHEAT FIELD.

It might be argued from this remarkable showing that an acre of land in Montana would cost more than an acre elsewhere. However, it will be found that the price placed upon Montana land is far less than in any of these twelve states; in fact, it compares to the rent on land in some of the middle states, which do not excel Montana for returns per acre when acre for acre of improved cultivable land is considered.

# Montana Lands Sources of Wealth



CHOICE LANDS IN MONTANA, homesteaded ten years ago, can be bought today by the home-seeker. These lands are situated in all parts of the state and have been proven productive to a remarkable degree through crop production over a period of years. Many of them are improved while many are still in their raw state. The fact that the homesteads have been picked over, makes it advisable that the home-seeker purchase land, for by so doing he has choice of location and quality of land desired.

Good land in Montana can be obtained at a very reasonable figure. At the present time there are excellent non-irrigated lands that can be secured at from \$15 per acre for unimproved to \$50 per acre for improved lands. Irrigated lands can be secured at from \$50 to \$150 per acre, depending upon the nature of the improvements and the location of the land. Nowhere else in the United States can lands with such possibilities be secured at equal prices. When the crops produced are taken into consideration it is evident that unusual opportunities are now to be obtained in Montana, which will not last for long. When the products of an acre in Montana equal in quantity and quality anything produced in the middle states on land valued at from \$100 an acre to \$300 an acre, it is certainly safe to say that land values in Montana will soon be much higher than they are today. There is no reason to doubt that in a very few years land in Montana will command the same price per acre as land in these other states with the same crop yield.

## What Land Can Be Secured.

The best land in Montana at the present time is in private ownership. A good deal of this land was homesteaded in an earlier day, much of it has been bought from the railroads by syndicates and others for the purpose of sale, while other farms are divisions of former large cattle ranches, which have now been divided up into smaller tracts and turned to cultivation. This land can be bought at prices varying from \$15 to \$50 an acre, depending upon its location.

## Lands Owned by State.

Another large amount of excellent land located in all parts of the state is owned by the State of Montana. These lands were granted to the state by the national government when Montana entered the Union, for the support of its public schools and for the benefit of its higher educational institutions. These lands have been selected by experts with the result that the state lands are among the very best in the commonwealth.

An unusual opportunity is offered in these state lands. The amount remaining unsold at the present time aggregates 4,438,627 acres, classified as grazing, agricultural, timber and coal lands. Sections 16 and 36 in each township in the state, outside Indian reservations and national forests, are state lands unless they have been sold, and in addition to these two sections in each township, the state has selected land in every part of the state. These state selections were made before the great rush of homesteaders absorbed the most available part of the public domain, and it is therefore possible for



those buying state land to secure desirable tracts in the best developed sections of the state. For those who wish to secure land in the well settled districts of Montana and who do not desire to reside upon the land while securing title, the purchase of state lands is strongly recommended.

Sales of state land are made at public auction, a sale being usually held in each county once a year. The land is sold for not less than the appraised price, the minimum being \$10.00 per acre. Sales are made upon the basis of 15 per cent cash, the remainder of the purchase price to be paid in twenty equal annual installments with interest at the rate of five per cent.

### How to Obtain State Land.

The State Board of Land Commissioners is custodian of all state lands, and the fixing of sale dates is discretionary with this board. Those who desire to buy or lease state land should make formal application to the Register of State Lands, Helena, Montana, upon the receipt of which, together with a fee of 50 cents, the land will be offered for sale at public auction at the next sale held in the county where the land is situated. Advance notice of sale will be mailed to the applicant. Sales of state land can be only made to citizens of the United States or to those who have declared their intention to become such or to corporations organized under the laws of this state.



HAYING SCENE IN ONE OF THE VALLEYS.

The amount of state land which may be purchased by any individual or corporation is strictly limited by law, to the end that the land, when sold by the state, will pass directly into the possession of actual settlers. Not more than 160 acres classified as agricultural land and susceptible of irrigation, nor more than 320 acres classified as agricultural land not susceptible of irrigation, nor more than 640 acres classified as grazing land can be sold to one purchaser.

### May Lease for Five Years.

State lands not sold may be leased for a period not exceeding five years, and the purchaser of state land upon which a lessee has improvements must pay the lessee a reasonable value therefor. If the lessee and the purchaser cannot agree on the value of the improvements, the State Land Agent fixes the price the purchaser must pay for the same. Lessees of state land are required to pay a rental for grazing use of \$50.00 to \$100.00 per section per annum and for agricultural use from \$150.00 to \$320 per section per annum.

The following table shows the acreage of state land in each of the several counties of the State July 1, 1918:

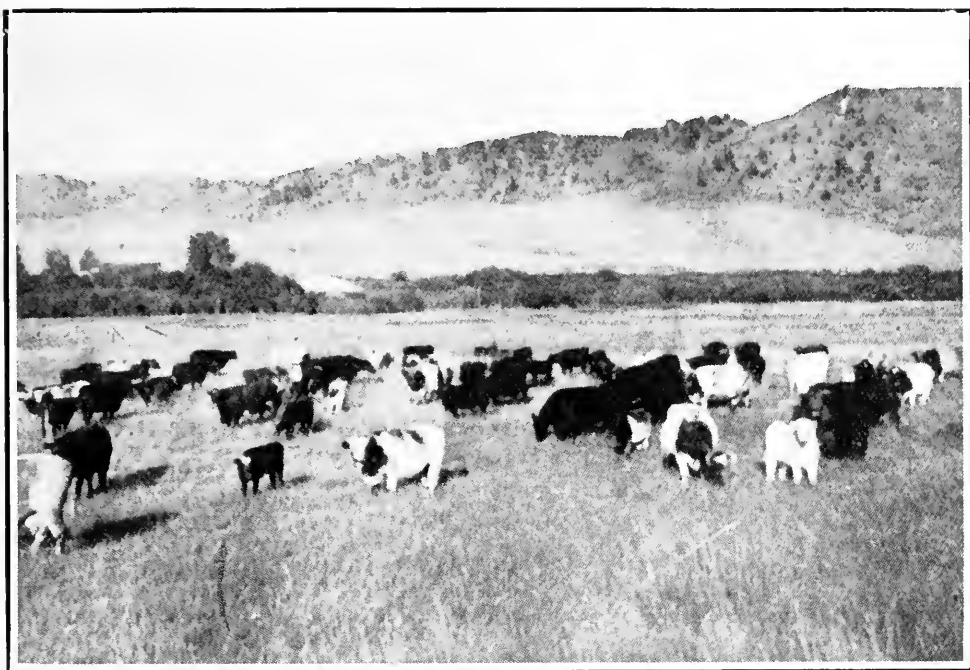
Beaverhead .....	179,303.53	Mineral .....	26,085.78
Big Horn .....	39,818.68	Missoula .....	75,065.30
Blaine .....	170,781.32	Musselshell .....	93,388.42
Broadwater .....	21,847.60	Park .....	37,487.00
Carbon .....	42,091.55	Phillips .....	143,342.28
Carter .....	87,746.99	Powell .....	50,831.36
Cascade .....	87,416.41	Prairie .....	59,337.48
Chouteau .....	278,591.39	Ravalli .....	26,458.05
Custer .....	205,551.72	Richland .....	92,481.42
Dawson .....	277,322.14	Rosebud .....	194,956.68
Deer Lodge .....	9,471.92	Sanders .....	58,479.58
Fallon .....	51,255.55	Sheridan .....	178,424.08
Fergus .....	261,522.41	Silver Bow .....	15,262.94
Flathead .....	113,102.43	Stillwater .....	41,230.74
Gallatin .....	52,937.90	Sweet Grass .....	52,129.03
Granite .....	17,210.11	Teton .....	154,619.10
Hill .....	204,183.04	Toole .....	110,622.31
Jefferson .....	26,134.38	Valley .....	363,195.97
Lewis and Clark .....	112,308.74	Wheatland .....	62,761.54
Lincoln .....	56,952.64	Wibaux .....	31,358.21
Madison .....	115,899.45	Yellowstone .....	68,133.82
Meagher .....	91,585.69		
Total .....			4,438,626.68

### Still Some Homestead Land.

The report of the commissioner of the general land office shows that there are still in Montana a vast number of acres of public land open for homesteads. The fact that most of this land is either at a considerable distance from a railroad or has been pretty well picked over, makes it more advisable to select and buy a piece of land either from the state or from a private individual or company in a more desirable location and of a quality that will suit. If grazing land is desired some may be secured under the enlarged Homestead Act. It is not considered advisable to locate on a homestead, however, unless the settler has a sufficient supply of funds to carry him through. For a man with a family this should be not less than \$1500.

### Larger Homesteads.

The homestead laws have recently been greatly liberalized. Formerly in order to secure a homestead of 160 acres it was necessary for the settler to reside upon and cultivate his land continuously for a period of five years. Under an act of congress this period of residence and cultivation has been reduced to three years, while the homesteader is allowed an annual period of absence of not to exceed five months during each of these years. Other legislation has also increased the amount of land which may be taken up. At the present time, homesteads of 320 acres may be secured where the land has been designated as not susceptible of irrigation. Practically all of the remaining public land in Montana has already been so designated. January 2, 1917, the so-called 640-acre homestead law became operative. Under the provisions of this law, settlers are allowed to file upon as much as 640 acres of land, provided the land is designated as being more valuable for stock raising and grazing than farming purposes.



MONTANA RAISES EXCELLENT BEEF CATTLE.

#### **Ten Land Districts.**

Montana is divided into ten land districts, each containing a United States land office for the administration of the public land affairs of that particular district. These land offices are located at Billings, Bozeman, Glasgow, Great Falls, Havre, Helena, Kalispell, Lewistown, Miles City and Missoula. Persons desiring to make homestead entry should first fully inform themselves as to the character and quality of the land they desire to enter and should in no case apply to enter until they have visited and fully examined each legal subdivision for which they make application, as satisfactory information as to the character and occupancy of public land cannot be obtained in any other way.

All proceedings connected with the entering and filing on a homestead are conducted by the officials of the land office for the land district where the land is located. No maps are issued showing the location of vacant public land subject to entry, and this information can be reliably obtained only from the records of the various land offices. Township plats, showing the vacant public land in any particular township, may be secured from the land office at the price of one dollar each.

#### **Soldiers and Sailors.**

At the present time no special inducements are offered in Montana to returned soldiers and sailors who have served their country. A bill was passed by the legislature in 1919 providing for co-operation on the part of the state with the national government in the Lane Land Settlement bill. Congress adjourned without making the Lane bill a federal law but it is expected that it will come up again at the next session. Should the bill become a law, the state law will be of particular benefit to men who have been in the service.

The following laws have been passed which are of benefit to men who made their homestead entry prior to enlistment:

A person serving in the Army or Navy of the United States may make a homestead entry if some member of his family is residing on the lands applied for, and appli-

cation and accompanying affidavits may be executed before the officer commanding the branch of service in which he is engaged.

The act of July 28, 1917, provides that any person serving in the Army or Navy of the United States, in any war in which the United States may be engaged, shall in the administration of the homestead laws, have his services therein applied to purposes of residence and cultivation of the tract entered or settled upon for the same length of time as he is in the service. If discharged from the service on account of wounds or disability, his full term of enlistment shall count rather than the length of time he was in the service. However, no patent shall be issued to any homesteader who has not resided upon, improved and cultivated his homestead for a period of at least one year.

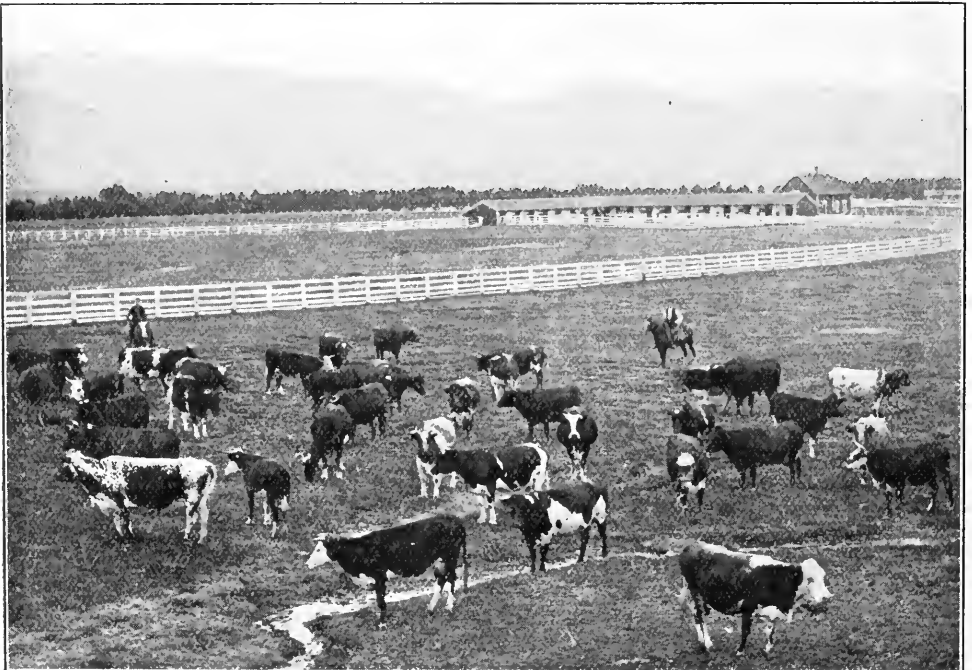
If any person serving in the Army or Navy of the United States dies while actually engaged in the service, then his widow, if unmarried, or in case of her death or marriage, his minor orphan children, or his or their legal representatives, may proceed to make final proof. The death of such person, while so engaged, shall be construed to be equivalent to a performance of all requirements as to residence and cultivation upon such homestead.

### How to Get Located.

There are no maps issued showing the vacant land in the state, for the reason that the map would soon be out of date. The best way to find the land is to come to the state for a personal investigation. The expense is trifling when compared with the benefits that will be attained. If this is not possible the best procedure is as follows:

Pick out the section of the state in which you desire to locate. Get in touch by letter with the Commercial club of the nearest town or the county seat, or with the farm bureau president in that county. Either the Commercial club secretary or the farm bureau president will furnish truthful information about the county and will be able to see that you are put in touch with just what you want. They will also see that you are looked after and definitely settled when you finally move to Montana.

The names and addresses of the Commercial club secretaries and the farm bureau presidents in the various counties will be cheerfully furnished by this department upon application.



DAIRYING IS PROFITABLE IN MONTANA.

# Life Made Attractive in Montana



HOWEVER many and diversified the attractions that Montana has to offer to the new settler, yet none will appeal to him more than the many things within the state that go to place his home life upon a high plane and to secure for him the many benefits and conveniences of modern civilization. Intellectually, socially, industrially and spiritually, Montana has looked after its citizens and is giving them the things that make farm life attractive. It is a progressive state and its law makers and leading citizens have done all in their power to benefit the farmer and make him contented.

The seeker after a home in Montana wants to know something about the state besides the land. He is interested in the schools and churches, farm bureaus, towns and markets, the climate, the kind of people, the natural resources and the chance to enjoy life. He will find that all of these are provided in Montana.

## Schools and Churches.

In matters pertaining to education Montana has done well. When the state was admitted to the Union, one-eighteenth of the public land in the state was set aside as school land. This amounted to 5,233,920 acres. As this land is sold the money goes into a permanent fund, the interest on which is used for the benefit of the schools of the state. At the present time \$14,539,887.90 is in this fund. Each year each child receives its share of the interest on this fund in school training.

Rural schools are located all over Montana and these are fast being improved. Two rural school inspectors, under the supervision of the Department of Public Instruction, are constantly looking after their welfare. Scattered throughout the state in the more important towns are city and county high schools. There are 140 accredited high schools which admit pupils free of tuition under the present school laws. Good colleges and universities, both state institutions and denominational schools, take care of the higher education of Montana's youth.

There are also good church facilities to be found throughout Montana. Practically all denominations are found in all communities with church buildings and well trained ministers. Any one coming to Montana will have no trouble in finding the church of his choice and a place to settle among the people of his own sect.

## Towns and Markets.

Naturally with the growth of the agricultural industry there have come into being many new towns, while the older ones have grown fast. Five years ago there were not to exceed 150 grain elevators in Montana. Today there are 1100 and almost every one of the later ones is located in a new town. Railroad extensions and branch lines have been built into many parts and have developed the country adjacent. Stores, elevators and banks have been started and many a town has sprung into being in twelve months.

These towns supply a market for the surrounding country, enabling the farmers to get their produce to market with the least possible expense. Near the larger cities and mining camps truck gardening, poultry raising and dairying pay well because of the fine market afforded.

### Many Natural Resources.

One of the most important considerations to the farmer is fuel. In the eastern part of the state there are beds of lignite coal which can be mined by the farmers or bought at a low price per ton. There are many coal mines in Montana producing a higher grade of coal which can always be secured on the local market. Montana mined 4,400,000 tons of high grade coal in 1918.

In various parts of the state, particularly in the western part, the settler has little difficulty in getting wood. The great forests are located here and from these lumber mills furnish lumber for building purposes. Montana lumber can always be secured near at hand.

### Farmers Are Benefited.

Much of the energy of the state is being devoted to the development of its agricultural resources and every effort is being made to give to the Montana farmer in a practical and intelligent way the benefit of the great advancement which has been made in the farming industry and to assist him to make a success of his calling.

Much recent legislation has been enacted by the state for the benefit of the farmer. This legislation has taken the form of providing cheap, long time loans on farm lands,



SPRING SEEDING IN THE GALLATIN VALLEY.

providing hail insurance at actual cost, providing for the proper grading of grain and the strict supervision of elevators, furnishing trained county agricultural agents to personally assist the farmer in solving his individual problems and providing for farmers' institutes and for the establishment of farm bureaus.

### Services of the State Colleges

The State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts is co-operating in every way to benefit the farmer. Extension work for the farmers and short courses along agricultural lines are conducted. The Experiment Station, which is conducted in connec-

tion with the college, is rendering valuable assistance to the farmers. The work done by the various organizations connected with the college has resulted in a noticeable improvement along agricultural lines in all parts of the state.

### **Montana A Beauty Spot.**

As a pleasant and attractive place to live, Montana is not to be excelled. It boasts the finest scenery to be found on the continent. Its forests and mountains furnish places of restful retreat and pleasurable vacation haunts, while its streams and lakes and wooded places are full of fish and game. There are plenty of opportunities to enjoy life in Montana.

### **What About the Climate?**

Many people who bear in mind only the northern location of Montana, or who hear only the reports of a low temperature at some one point in the winter, have a very erroneous idea of Montana's climate. They believe it to be a land of cold winters, long drawn out, and short summers. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Montana has almost an ideal climate, healthful, invigorating, mild and comfortable. The winters are not severe, while the summers are long and cool, with plenty of sunshine and frost-free growing days.

### **"Chinooks" Come Often.**

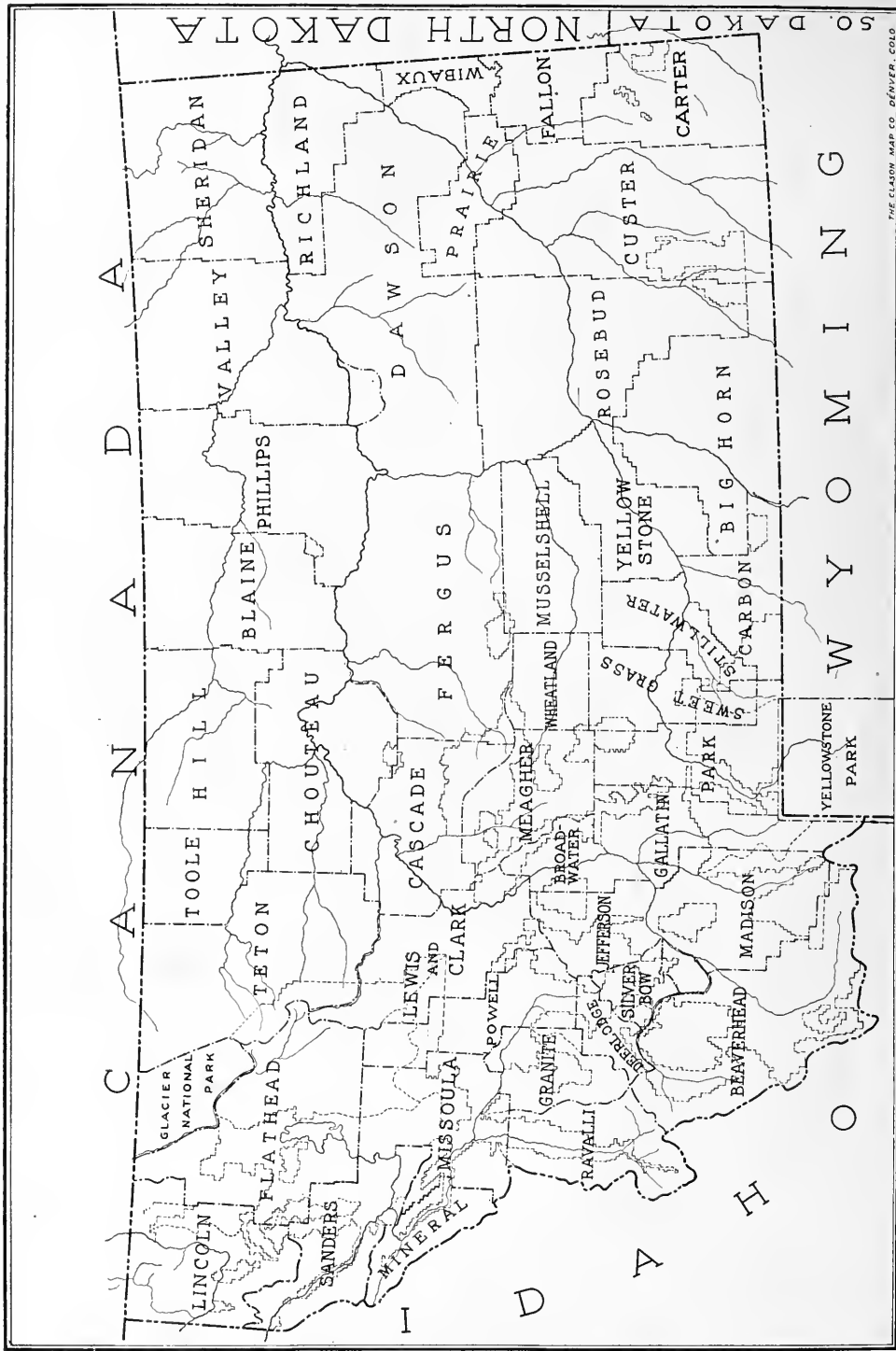
It is true that the thermometer goes low at times in Montana. It is likewise true that Montana has a dry, rarified atmosphere, which makes the cold less penetrating and therefore less severe than in the damper climates of the middle and eastern states. Thirty degrees below zero will not affect a person as much in Montana as fifteen degrees below will in the Mississippi valley.

Furthermore, the winter season is not one of continued cold. Plenty of sunshine, even in December and January, is the rule rather than the exception. Extreme cold spells are of short duration and are rapidly modified by the "chinook" winds, a western breeze, warmed by the Japanese current, which stretches its modifying influence as far east as the Dakotas. In most parts of the state the snow stays but a few days at a time, due to these "chinooks." Very often cattle graze out on the range during a large part of the winter, even in the northern part of the state.

### **A Happy and Prosperous People.**

What kind of people live in Montana? On this point the new settler need have no fears. Montana counts as one of her greatest assets the splendid character and energetic and patriotic spirit of her people. The foundations of the state were laid by hardy, indomitable pioneers, genuine and honest in purpose and open handed in their cordiality. Those who have come to the state since have imbibed these same characteristics.

If you are looking for a soft snap, don't come to Montana. It has no place for the man who will not contribute his just share to the state. On the other hand, if you are willing to give your best, Montana welcomes you and will do all it can to help you find prosperity, a real home and happiness within its borders.



THE CLASON MAP CO. DENVER, COLO.